

4 October 1955

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Conversation with Mr. William J. Shepherd, President of WAEPA.

1. On 3 October 1955 I telephoned Mr. W. J. Shepherd, President of WAEPA, to discuss the insurance problems in which WAEPA and our personnel have a mutual interest. I told Mr. Shepherd that recently it had been called to my attention that he was the new President of WAEPA and that I wanted to review with him certain unresolved problems in connection with our participation in this plan. I advised him of my conversation of 2 August 1955 with Mr. Frederick J. Lawton subsequent to which Mr. Lawton had agreed to place our problems before the Board. In this connection I added that to my knowledge we had never received any formal reply from the Board with reference to our suggestions and particularly to the suggestion that we should have membership on the Board. Mr. Shepherd assured me that Mr. Lawton did bring these matters to the attention of the Board but stated that as he understood it no formal action was ever taken. He said that the Board had noted with interest, as well as alarm, the declining participation of CIA personnel in WAEPA and volunteered that he and Mr. Parsons, the Vice-President, had had lunch sometime back with [REDACTED] at which time the latter had been very frank to lay our problems on the line.

STATINTL

2. I told Mr. Shepherd that inasmuch as at one time we had had about thirty-three per cent of the participating membership and still had twenty-five per cent it seemed entirely appropriate to us that we have a member on the Board. I emphasized that whatever our differences of opinion might be, and regardless of who was right, I thought that this single step in itself would do more to bring about a common understanding and resolve the problems than anything else that we might do. Mr. Shepherd was very friendly but I got an impression that he felt that CIA participation in WAEPA would continue to decline and that it was appropriate for the Board to pattern its future based upon the assumption that CIA would fade out eventually. He did say that the Board had a whole host of problems to sort out in a series of meetings which would take place within the next sixty to ninety days. I urged him very strongly to permit us to nominate a representative of CIA as a member of the Board and volunteered the services of CIA personnel at any time to consult further with him or his associates in this matter. Mr. Shepherd pledged that he would insure that these matters were taken up by the Board and that I would hear from him in the not too distant future.

/s/

DD/S:LKW:laq

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cc: Director of Personnel

General Counsel

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Deputy Director
(Support)